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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/682,812	10/22/2001	Tung-Leng Lau	EWTP0001USA	6427

27765 7590 05/06/2004

NAIPO (NORTH AMERICA INTERNATIONAL PATENT OFFICE)
P.O. BOX 506
MERRIFIELD, VA 22116

EXAMINER

ARSHAD, UMAR

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2174

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DATE MAILED: 05/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/682,812

Applicant(s)

LAU, TUNG-LENG

Examiner

Umar Arshad

Art Unit

2174

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 October 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 – 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cohn, U.S. Patent No. 5,712,995.

As per claim 1, Cohn teaches a method for displaying application programs of a computer system on a screen, the computer system comprising a main application program and at least one auxiliary application program, the method comprising:

when the auxiliary application program is opened and the main application program is closed, trigger a predetermined key to move the auxiliary application program and open the main application program so as to display an image of the auxiliary application program and an image of the main application program on the screen (see Cohn, column 35, lines 30 – 32 and column 41, lines 5 – 30; the examiner interprets a maximized layout as when main application program is closed and auxiliary

application program as open, and a half-maximized layout as displaying an image of the auxiliary application program and an image of the main application program on the screen).

As per claim 2, which is dependent on claim 1, Cohn teaches the method of claim 1 (see rejection above). Cohn further teaches the method of claim 1 further comprising:

after the image of the main application program is displayed on the screen, click on the image of the main application program to remove the image of the auxiliary application program (see Cohn, column 41, lines 25 – 28).

As per claim 3, which is dependent on claim 1, Cohn teaches the method of claim 1 (see rejection above). Cohn further teaches the method of claim 1 wherein after triggering the predetermined key, the image of the auxiliary application program will move to a lower portion of the screen, and the image of the main application will be displayed at an upper portion of the screen (see Cohn, figure 8, items 210, 211 and 212).

As per claim 4, which is dependent on claim 1, Cohn teaches the method of claim 1 (see rejection above). Cohn further teaches the method of claim 1 wherein the predetermined key is displayed on the screen (see Cohn, figure 8, item 265 and column 41, lines 28 – 29).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cohn, U.S. Patent No. 5,712,995 in view of Ballard, U.S. Patent No. 6,727,916.

As per claim 5, which is dependent on claim 1, Cohn teaches the method of claim 1 (see rejection above). Cohn does not teach the method of claim 1 wherein the computer system is a personal data assistant (PDA). Ballard teaches wherein the computer system is a personal data assistant (see Ballard, column 1, lines 27 – 29). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teaching of using a PDA with the method of Cohn in order to increase portability of the system.

As per claim 6, which is dependent on claim 1, Cohn teaches the method of claim 1 (see rejection above). Cohn does not teach method of claim 1 wherein the computer system is a cellular phone. Ballard teaches wherein the computer system is a cellular phone (see Ballard, column 1, lines 24 – 32). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teaching of using a cellular phone with the method of Cohn in order to allow for portable means of communication.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Umar Arshad whose telephone number is (703) 305-0329. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 9am - 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine L Kincaid can be reached on (703) 308-0640. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

UA

Kristine Kincaid
KRISTINE KINCAID
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100